CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An interactive tool for configuring a portal, comprising:

a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

a second user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the

portal;

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a

desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout; and

2. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a

book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.

3. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

a desktop can be defined based on a template.

4. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

5. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and

wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

6. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal

resources.

7. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.

8. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

9. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

10. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

an entitlement is based on a user role.

11. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

12. The interactive tool of claim 11 wherein:

the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

13. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

a portlet can dynamically present content.

14. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:

a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource; and

wherein an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

15. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.

16. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

17. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:
a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

18. An interactive tool for configuring a portal, comprising:

a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

a second user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal;

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource;

wherein an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources; and

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout.

19. The interactive tool of claim 18, further comprising:

at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.

20. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein:

a desktop can be defined based on a template.

21. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein:

a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

22. The interactive tool of claim 18, further comprising:

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

23. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein:

the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources.

- 24. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein: wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.
- 25. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein: the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.
- 26. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein: an entitlement is based on a user role.
- 27. The interactive tool of claim 18, further comprising: a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).
- 28. The interactive tool of claim 27 wherein:
 the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping
 graphical objects representing VCR nodes.
- 29. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein: a portlet can dynamically present content.
- 30. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein: the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.
- 31. The interactive tool of claim 18 wherein:
 the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.
- 32. The interactive tool of claim 18, further comprising:
 a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.
- 33. A method for configuring a portal, comprising:

 providing a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

providing a second user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal; and

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout.

34. The method of claim 33, further comprising:

providing at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein:

a desktop can be defined based on a template.

36. The method of claim 33 wherein:

a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

37. The method of claim 33, further comprising:

providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

38. The method of claim 33 wherein:

the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources.

39. The method of claim 33 wherein:

wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.

40. The method of claim 33 wherein:

the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

41. The method of claim 33 wherein:

an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

42. The method of claim 33 wherein: an entitlement is based on a user role.

43. The method of claim 33, further comprising: providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

44. The method of claim 43 wherein:

the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

45. The method of claim 33 wherein: a portlet can dynamically present content.

46. The method of claim 33, further comprising:

providing a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource; and

wherein an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

47. The method of claim 33 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.

48. The method of claim 33 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

49. The method of claim 33, further comprising:

providing a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

50. A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor cause a system to:

provide a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

provide a second user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal; and

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout.

51. The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:

at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.

- 52. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein: a desktop can be defined based on a template.
- 53. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein: a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.
- 54. The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:

provide a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

55. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources.

- 56. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein: wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.
- 57. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

58. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

59. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

an entitlement is based on a user role.

60. The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that

when executed cause the system to:

provide a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and

wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

61. The machine readable medium of claim 60 wherein:

the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

62. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

a portlet can dynamically present content.

63. The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that

when executed cause the system to:

provide a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at

least one portal resource.

64. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.

65. The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:

the second user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

66. The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:

provide a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

67. A computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium, comprising:

a code segment including instructions to provide a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

a code segment including instructions to provide a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource; and

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.